

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02713 181425Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----181846Z 123008 /44

R 181323Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5768

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 2713

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

SUBJECT: NORMALIZATION OF SPAIN'S RELATIONS WITH
ISRAEL

REF: (A) STATE 82964 (B) MADRID 2907

1. WITH ALLON STILL IN EUROPE (SEEING DE GUIRINGUAD
IN PARIS, AFTER THE AMSTERDAM SOCIALIST POW-WOW), I
CONVEYED SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL TO AVINERI TODAY. WHILE
NOT SURPRISED, IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE THOUGHT THE
SPANISH ARGUMENTATION DISINGENUOUS AT BEST. THE
OCCUPATION-OF-TERRITORY ARGUMENT DID NOT SEEM TO
INHIBIT SPAIN WHEN IT WISHED TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS
WITH THE USSR, HE COMMENTED WRYLY. ISRAEL WAS NOT
ASKING SPAIN TO ACCEPT ALL ITS POLICIES; THIS WAS NOT
A NORMAL PRE-REQUISITE FOR RECOGNITION.

2. AVINERI NOTED THAT THE SPANISH PRIME MINISTER WOULD
BE VISITING WASHINGTON THIS MONTH. THE GOI WOULD
APPRECIATE OUR RAISING ITS CONCERN WITH HIM BECAUSE
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN MADRID SEEMED TO BE LOCKED
INTO ITS PRO-ARAB POSITION. PERHAPS WE COULD POINT
OUT TO PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ THAT THERE IS STILL ONE
"BLIND SPOT" IN REGARD TO SPAIN'S LIBERALIZING

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 02713 181425Z

TENDENCIES: ITS FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL. THIS
WOULD NOT GO UNNOTICED, HE THOUGHT, BY THE EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES WITH WHICH SPAIN WAS SEEKING CLOSER
ASSOCIATION. IT MAY BE THAT THE DECISION LAST
WEEK BY PORTUGAL TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
WITH ISRAEL WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR SPAIN TO DO THE
SAME.

3. COMMENT: AVINERI ASKED THAT I EXPRESS THE GOI'S
THANKS TO THE SECRETARY FOR CARRYING THROUGH ON THIS
ISSUE. HE HIMSELF WILL BE IN WASHINGTON IN
A WEEK AND MAY WELL PRESS FURTHER ON IT.
DUNNIGAN

SECRET

NNN

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